

### Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested.

By this amendment, claims 41-46, 48, 49, and 72-81 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 3-40, 50-71, and 82 are pending.

The rejection of claims 41-46, 48 and 49 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mooney et al (5,885,829) in view of Kato (5,871,360) is rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims without prejudice.

The rejection of claims 72 and 75-81 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,822,278 to Oliva et al. ("Oliva") is rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims without prejudice.

The rejection of claims 73 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for obviousness over Oliva in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,885,782 to Groves et al. ("Groves") is rendered moot by the cancellation of this claim without prejudice.

The rejection of claim 74 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) for obviousness over Oliva in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,855,562 to Moore et al. ("Moore") is rendered moot by the cancellation of this claim without prejudice.

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR § 1.84(p)(5), because the drawings are said to not include reference numeral 80. However, in the July 24, 2006, Amendment, this objection was obviated by deleting reference to numeral 80 in paragraph [00051]. Therefore, this objection has already been addressed.

In view of all of the foregoing, it is submitted that this case is in condition for allowance and such allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 29, 2007

/Edwin V. Merkel/

Edwin V. Merkel - Registration No. 40,087

Michael L. Goldman - Registration No. 30,727

NIXON PEABODY LLP  
Clinton Square, P.O. Box 31051  
Rochester, New York 14603-1051  
Telephone: (585) 263-1304  
Facsimile: (585) 263-1600